

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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... and the State official will send them on to the Privy Council. It is not intended to send any member of the Australian legation to England to represent the Government.

retained in London if occasion arises.

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GREAT BRITAIN AND

JAN. 11.

TREATY OF ALLIANCE.

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LASTS FOR FIVE YEARS.

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ITS OBJECTS.

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STATUS QUO IN THE FAR EAST.

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INTEGRITY OF CHINA AND COREA.

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THE SPECIAL INTERESTS OF THE ALLIES.

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PROVISIONS IN EVENT OF WAR.

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LONDON, Feb. 11.

Great Britain and Japan have signed a treaty of alliance.

Feb. 12

The Treaty between Great Britain and Japan is at least for five years, and took effect on January 30 last.

The operative clauses are evidently modelled after the second clause of the Austro-German treaty of 1879, which led to the Triple Alliance between Austria, Germany, and Italy.

THE PREAMBLE.

The preamble of the Treaty describes Great Britain and Japan as being actuated solely by a desire to maintain the status quo and a general peace in the Far East, and to safeguard the special interests which they have maintaining the independence and the territorial integrity of the empires of China and Korea, and in securing equal opportunities therein for the commerce and industry of all nations.

ARTICLE I.

Great Britain and Japan are not influenced by any aggressive tendencies in either country. In view, however, of their special interests whereof those of Great Britain relate principally to China, while Japan, looking at the interests which she possesses in China, is interested in a peculiar degree politically, commercially, and industrially in Corea, the High Contracting Parties recognise that it shall be admissible for either of them to take such measures as may be indispensable in order to safeguard those interests if threatened either by the aggressive action of any other Power, or by disturbances in China or Corea necessitating intervention by either of the High Contracting Parties for the protection of the lives and the properties of its subjects.

ARTICLE II.

Neither Great Britain or Japan in the defence of their respective interests above described becomes involved in a war with another Power, the other Ally will maintain strict neutrality and will use its efforts to prevent other Powers joining in hostilities against its Ally.

ARTICLE III.

In the above event any Power or Powers join in hostilities against its Ally, the other High Contracting Party will come to its assistance, will conduct the war in common, and will make peace by mutual arrangement with it.

ARTICLE IV.

Allies against each other without consulting the other will enter into any separate arrangements with another Power to the prejudice of the interests described in this Treaty.

ARTICLE V.

Whenever in the opinion of either of the High Contracting Parties the interests described in this Treaty are in jeopardy the Allies will communicate one with another fully and frankly.

ARTICLE VI.

The agreement is subject to notice of intention to terminate it twelve months prior to the expiration of the five years for which it is made. Unless such notice is given the agreement will be terminated one year after it is denounced by either of the High Contracting Parties. But if at the date of expiration either of the High Contracting Parties is actually engaged in war, the Alliance will continue until peace is made.

LORD LANDOWNE'S COVERING NOTE.

IDENTICAL POLICIES.

LONDON, Feb. 12.

The covering despatch to the Treaty by the Foreign Office of the British Minister to Japan, Sir Claude MacDonald, states that the policy of the Allies (Great Britain and Japan) had proved to be identical in aiming to prevent the disturbance of the territorial status of China or the adjoining regions.

SATISFACTION IN GREAT BRITAIN AND AMERICA.

MONOPOLY OF CHINA'S RICHES PREVENTED.

TREATY CONDUCTIVE TO THE WORLD'S PEACE.

LONDON, Feb. 12.

The "Times," in writing of the Treaty, speaks the great satisfaction felt in Great Britain and America at the conclusion of the alliance which will prevent any possible tempest being made to secure by the sword monopoly of China's riches.

The Ministerial organs agree that the opportunity is afforded China to freely develop them within, and that the Alliance ought to strengthen Anglo-Japanese counsels at home.

Those organs also state that a clear statement of policy is really conducive to the world's peace.

AFTER FORTY YEARS.

It is not the people of the West who are barbarians, said the members of the Japanese Embassy years ago on their return from Europe; "it is not the people of the West who are barbarians; we ourselves are the barbarian people." Lord Ellen had recorded in 1859 the opinion of a young of Yokohama as to foreign trade, with a provision that in five years time two southern ports should also be opened. The time passed the Japanese found that this provision would not be honoured, and they sent the embassy to Europe to request another "open ports" grant. The request was granted, and the ambassadors spent a couple of years in travelling through Europe. The date of their journey is embodied in the statement which they made officially when they came back. Naturally the discovery was distasteful to the Japanese, who had at heart an objection to "foreign trade" in the Chinese had and have, Yoritomo.

serve Japanese soil free from foreigners and their importations. Events, however, were too hard for him and those who sympathised with them. The

certain ports, gave the "barbarians" liberty of use for purposes of trade, and, consequently, per-

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SPECIAL CABLES.

CORRESPONDENTS.

THE SUPPLY OF MEAT FOR THE ARMY.

FURTHER ACTION BY EARL CARRINGTON.

LONDON, Feb. 11. Earl Carrington, in the House of Lords, in their criticizing the contract obtained by Bergl, Limited, complained that persons identified with the syndicate's contract had large interests in the Argentine. Carrington will move for the production of the contract papers.

COLONIAL MEAT GUARANTEES.

LONDON, Feb. 11. The "Standard" says that it is not satisfied with the different guarantees have been offered by the syndicate contractors for taking foreign meat when colonial is available.

SAFETY OF H.M.S. EGRIA.

WRECKAGE OF CONDOY TO VANCOUVER.

LONDON, Feb. 13. The "Standard" says that the ship was being surveyed, and that it was the summing order, has arrived safely at Vancouver. The Egria has brought to Vancouver some wreckage of the Condo, including a deck grating, some deck sheathing, and the signal box.

The complement of the Condo was 130 officers and crew. According to the latest Navy list the officers were Commander Clifton Stanley, Lieutenants Macon, and Roy Watson, and Mr. V. Freeston, and Mr. F. S. Hartley, Assistant-paymaster W. H. G. Gomer, A. D. A. Burns, Artillery Engineer, and Mr. D. J. D. D.

CHINA.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TIENTSIN.

LONDON, Feb. 12. An agreement has been signed at Tientsin transferring the collection of the ink duties on goods in transit to the Foreign Office when the provisional government is established by the foreign Powers ceases. Meanwhile the provisional government will continue to collect the Customs duties on goods to the value of £100,000 monthly.

INDIA.

AN AFRIIDI RAID.

LONDON, Feb. 12. Three hundred Afriidi raided the cattle of the Rajah of Janjur, on the Panjab frontier. The Afriidi were in pursuit of the Rajah's cattle and took 11 prisoners.

The Rajah is a strong fort at the mouth of the river Pan on the north-west frontier of India.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

LONDON, Feb. 11. In order to secure greater efficiency in the use of the speed of the torpedo boats, the Admiralty has been reduced to 27 knots.

On the 10th of the month it was announced that the battleship "Hood" was being transferred to the Devonport Dockyard. It had been found that the ship had been damaged by a torpedo.

CANADIAN DUTY ON NEWS PAPER REDUCED.

LONDON, Feb. 18. Canada has reduced the duty on news paper to one per cent. An investigation shows that the duty on news paper has been reduced to one per cent. The duty on news paper has been reduced to one per cent.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES.

LONDON, Feb. 11. The demand of the British delegates at the Bounties Conference at Brussels that the import duty on sugar should be reduced to one-half, under penalty of reprisals by the United Kingdom, the colonies, and India, has been met by the Austrian and German traders, who have unanimously recommended resistance to the demand. The conference adjourned to enable the British and the Austrian delegates to meet with their Governments.

MOAN ARBITRATION CASES.

LONDON, Feb. 11. The British, German, and American cases before King Oscar of Sweden, the arbitrator, do not cover the claims of the Moan.

MADAME MELBA.

LONDON, Feb. 11. Madame Melba has been commanded to a special coronation ode before the King and Queen at Covent Garden.

ROWING MATCH.

LONDON, Feb. 11. A. B. Barry (England) beat Henry Pearce, New South Wales, in a match on the lake by three lengths. The stakes were a side.

The "Sportman" of January 4 George Pearce issued a challenge to row W. A. Barry for £400 a side. The champion also offered a side of £400 a side. Barry also offered a side of £400 a side. Barry also offered a side of £400 a side.

THE TAILLOW SALES.

LONDON, Feb. 12. The periodical tailow sales to-day 480 tons were offered and 68 casks of mutton tallow were sold. Prices were as follows:—Fine mutton tallow, 37s. 6d., medium tallow, 35s. 6d., fine beef 33s., and medium tallow 30s. per cwt.

THE UNITED STATES.

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THE SUGGESTED INTERVENTION OF THE POWERS.

GREAT BRITAIN'S PART.

LONDON, Feb. 12.

The Washington correspondent of the "Times" reports that the action of the Americans to the United States in 1898, seminally attributed in Berlin to Lord Lansdowne, the British Ambassador, emanated from M. Cambon, the French Ambassador. The question was merely submitted to Lord Lansdowne, as the senior diplomat at Washington.

The House of Commons last night visited Cranborne, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and that Great Britain never proposed through Lord Lansdowne, or otherwise, a declaration adverse to the intervention of the United States in Cuba. The country, and Viscount Cranborne, British Government had declined to assent (such a proposal).

LEGISLATING AGAINST ANARCHISTS.

LONDON, Feb. 11.

His bill dealing with anarchists, which has been introduced by the Senate provides for the death penalty for those who are the of the President or members of the official of Presidential succession, or for attempts to kill the chief ruler of other nations. It is also provided that the President shall be punished with the army bodyguard, instead of with a police escort.

It was reported that it was semi-officially announced in Berlin that on the initiative of Lansdowne, the Ambassadors at Washington would be sent to the United States Government disapproving of intervention by the United States in Cuba. This announcement was made in consequence of the scepticism with which the United States Government received the intervention, and not Great Britain, which provided a European coalition in favour of Spain.

On January 21st prior to the Spanish war, the chief of the Powers suggested that a Joint Note be sent to the United States Government, in which the British and German Ambassadors, and the Japanese Ambassador, with guarantees that would be given to the United States Government, and in offering any upon America's attitude.

FAREWELL TO MR. JOHN COOKE.

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

Members and representative gathering of gentlemen met to bid farewell to Mr. John Cooke, who left in the afternoon by the Melbourne Express to join the M.H.S. Chas on route to the United States. The party occupied the last of Mr. Cooke's work as a member of the House of Representatives, generally his successful efforts to forward from men business of Australia. Mr. William Hughes and Mr. Malcolm McEachern, both of the chairmen's remarks. Mr. Cooke expressed appreciation of the members' sympathy to him, and that he hoped that the members were about to take would result not only to his but to the benefit of the country. The industry in he was so deeply interested.

DEPENDENT OF THE LIQUOR LAWS.

AN influential deputation, representing a number of the most influential residents of the city, waited to-day upon the Chief Secretary and the Premier to ask for the introduction of an amendment to the Liquor Act, which would be the introduction made at the conference of members. The Chief Secretary, in reply, said that the Government was not prepared to do so, and that the Government was in sympathy with the high measures which prompted the Government to introduce the Liquor Act. The bill would be introduced, but the Government would be considered by the Cabinet, when fall would be the Government's decision. The Government was in sympathy with the high measures which prompted the Government to introduce the Liquor Act. The bill would be introduced, but the Government would be considered by the Cabinet, when fall would be the Government's decision.

T. G. BROWN (Nell Baker's son) leaving the presidency of the Australian Lancers.

It is in consequence of his health, Mr. A. W. Brown, who has been the President of the Australian Lancers, has been elected to fill the vacancy during the year 1900. The President of the Lancers, Mr. A. W. Brown, has been elected to fill the vacancy during the year 1900. The President of the Lancers, Mr. A. W. Brown, has been elected to fill the vacancy during the year 1900.

THE VICTORIA FUND.

Mr. Samuel Gifford, M.L.A., Mayor of Melbourne, has been elected to the position of President of the Victoria Fund, which is a fund for the relief of the poor. The fund is a fund for the relief of the poor. The fund is a fund for the relief of the poor.

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THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE VICTORIA CROSS GAINED BY A

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CAPITAL.

SENATORS ON TOUR.

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